



Inglis

Newmarket – Sydney

16 November 2016

Mr Paul Forward
Chairman
Planning Assessment Commission
GPO Box 3415
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Sir,

Re: Drayton South Coal Project D431/16

William Inglis & Son hold grave fears for the future of the New South Wales Thoroughbred Breeding Industry if the Drayton South Coal Project planned for the Upper Hunter Valley goes ahead. This area of New South Wales is home to the major Thoroughbred Studs of Australia with a multi-billion investment in facilities, bloodstock and employees. The establishment of the mine as proposed would lead to a withdrawal of overseas and local investment in the area, the potential destruction of one of the world's leading horse breeding areas and the loss of over 1000 specialised equine jobs which have over the last 100 years formed successful communities in Scone, Gundy, Murrurundi and the surrounding district.

The Thoroughbred industry in New South Wales is the leader in the Southern Hemisphere generating enormous returns for the state through the investment of millions of dollars from equine enthusiasts from around the world.

The 2008 IER Report calculated that the Inglis Easter Yearling Sale which draws 65% of its product from the Upper Hunter Region, generated \$68.3million in economic benefit to the New South Wales economy. This is only one sale that has been independently quantified in this way. Further to this report in 2008, it is now estimated that approximately 80% our sales come from the Hunter Valley.

If the Thoroughbred Breeding Industry is lost from the Upper Hunter Valley it will be lost to the state forever. Some investment will flow to Victoria, some to New Zealand but the State of New South Wales will lose the greater majority of one of its biggest and most successful industries.

Reports provided by us in earlier submissions quantify the value of Bloodstock produced in the area affected by the proposed Drayton South Coal Project. They demonstrate there are many millions of dollars of economic benefits and jobs to be lost if the mine goes ahead.

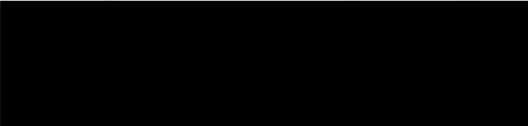
We share the concerns of the locally based farmers and horse breeders as to the many air, water and land environmental issues as well as the detrimental effects on the landscape aesthetics to the existing population, tourists and marketing of the region generally. We are confident that these issues will be dealt with in more detail by other submissions.

The management and cultivation of the landscape in the Upper Hunter Valley region produces racehorses who become Champions of the Turf. Racehorse buyers invest in horses from proven producers. The Upper Hunter Valley studs are the proven producers in the Australian Bloodstock industry. All this is at risk if the Drayton South Coal Project is approved.

William Inglis & Son have been selling Thoroughbred horses in Sydney for over 100 years. The majority of our business has been and is derived through horses bred in the Upper Hunter Valley region of New South Wales. As stated above our annual Easter Yearling sale contributes over \$68 million in economic benefit to the economy of New South Wales. When the full calendar of sales held by William Inglis & Son is taken into account that figure would be over \$100 million through our sales and this of course does not take into account the economic value created to this State by horses bred and retained to race.

We therefore request that you carefully consider our objections when assessing the appropriateness of the Drayton South Proposal.

Yours faithfully,
William Inglis and Son Limited



Arthur Inglis
Deputy Chairman

